

## Stone Bridge Area Improvement Task Force

### Minutes from April 20, 2006 Meeting

Attendees: Susan Anderson (Chair, Open Space Commission), Linda Jenkins (Garden Club guest), Marge Larson (Garden Club), Pam McDorr (Area Resident), Pat Sullivan (Conservation Commission)  
Absent: Bill Anderson (Economic Development), Sam Carr (Harbor Commission), Jack Cook (Recreation Commission)

Guests: Linda Jenkins has experience with grant writing, so she was a great asset to our meeting discussions. It is hoped she will continue to meet with us in helping us with grants for the project.

VHB Discussion: Sue had a meeting with David Webster regarding the status of VHB engineering. She relayed that there were originally six proposals submitted to the town and VHB was chosen because their projects closely fit with the scope of the Stone Bridge Restoration project. They are only an engineering design firm; any work to be done on the bridge structure itself must be let out through another proposal for contractors to bid on. Out of the original \$125,000 that was received for the engineering study, VHB has spent about \$76,000.

Town Council Workshop Discussion: As the Town Council has delayed recall of the SBTF on their agenda due to other pressing issues, it was decided that we should try to arrange a workshop with them on off Mondays in June or an alternate night. We are concerned about the possible loss of funding already approved by Kennedy's office, and also would like their further direction. Sue will follow up with a memo to Glenn Steckman to set this up.

#### Grant Discussion:

- ❑ Pat is still researching DEM; the Passive Park & Recreation Grant deadline is January. Pat will follow up with Bob Ballou.
- ❑ Preserve RI has \$300-\$1000 grants; Pat will research further to see if we can get funding for engineering design of restoration lighting and railings.
- ❑ CRMC – the only grants available are for coastal habitat restoration, so this is not a viable source for us.
- ❑ Federation of Garden Clubs – the grant amount is too small and there are none available at this time.
- ❑ RI Foundation – Karen Voci was contacted (covers Newport County); the grant amount is usually less than \$5000. She is willing to come to one of our meetings are talk to us.
- ❑ Question posed as to the \$360,000 the town has received for this project and the timeline that is needed to use it before we lose it. It was agreed that the town treasurer should be asked as to how much is set aside for the Stone Bridge Restoration. Also, that David Souza, Glenn Steckman and David Webster be invited to the May meeting to talk to this issue. It was agreed to hold the May meeting on the fourth week to assure their presence since the Town Financial Meeting is the third week.

#### Action Items:

1. Work on the resubmittal of the Army Corps of Engineers grant application and bring to the next meeting. *[Bill & Sam]*
2. Revise fundraising brochure from Pam's inputs. *[Sue]*
3. Check on grant funding from Fish & Wildlife and DEM (historic parks). *[Sam/Pat]*
4. Check on private donor funding. *[Sam]*
5. Check into Preserve Rhode Island funding. *[Pat]*
6. Check into Orton Family Foundation funding from Vermont Country Store. *[Linda/Marge]*
7. Follow up with RI Foundation funding. *[Marge]*
8. Write memo to the Town Administrator to set up a workshop in June with the Town Council. *[Sue]*
9. Talk to the Town Treasurer about the status of Stone Bridge Restoration monies received. *[Sue]*
10. Invite David Souza, David Webster, Glenn Steckman to the May SBTF meeting. *[Sue]*

The next meeting will be held at the Town Hall on Wednesday, May 24, 2006 at 7 PM.

Submitted by Sue Anderson